

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method of recognising command related items in a body of object code, such as command names and/or associated option names involves entering a list of required command names and/or option names in programming language form into a filter table. The object code is then scanned for all bit strings potentially representing command names and identifying such names. For each potential command name, succeeding bits are then examined for bits which represent valid options for each said command name so as to further confirm the identity of commands having valid combinations of command names and/or options. Optionally, the command/option syntax may also be checked. The candidate commands, including options, now identified in programming language form are then compared with the entries in the filter table to determine whether or not they match the required list, which may be further refined by use of logical operators.